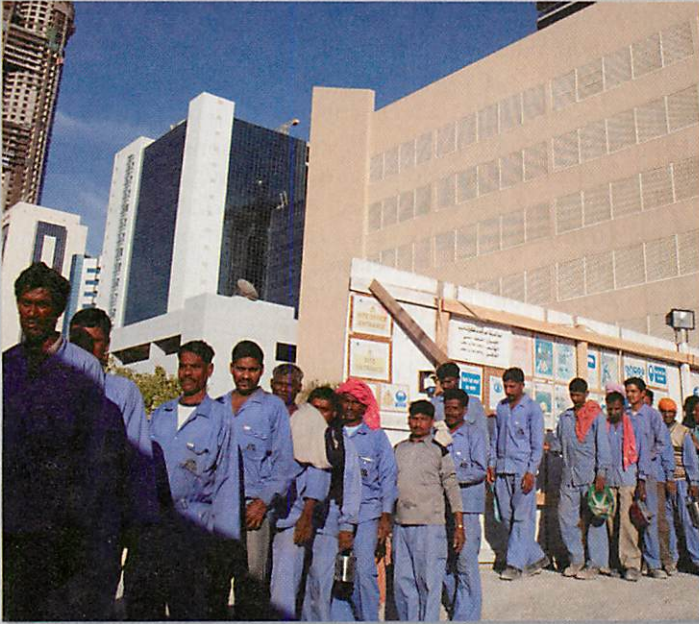


Chapter

3

Migration



Why are these immigrants lining up in Dubai? Page 95



Why are these people watching a parade in New York? Page 100

KEY ISSUE 1

Where Are Migrants Distributed?



A World of Migrants 79

People are on the move around the world. Where are they heading, and where are they coming from?

KEY ISSUE 2

Where Do People Migrate Within a Country?

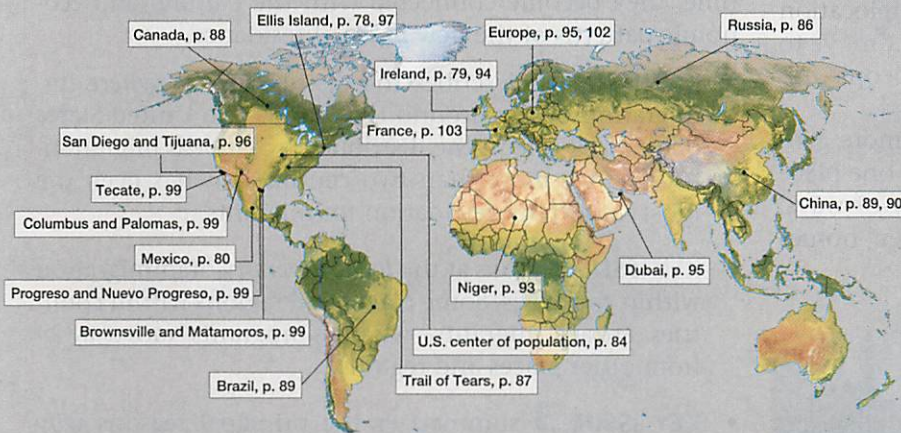


Moving Across Town or Across Country 84

Some people are moving into cities, while others are moving out of them.



▲ This tiny overcrowded boat is nearing Lampedusa, Italy, having sailed across the Mediterranean Sea from Tunisia. Geographers are interested in why people would risk such a dangerous journey. What pushed these people to set sail from Tunisia? What lured them to Italy, even though when they got there the authorities sent them right back to Tunisia?



KEY ISSUE 3

Why Do People Migrate?



Pushing and Pulling 92

It takes a lot of motivation to pick up and move to a new home.

KEY ISSUE 4

Why Do Migrants Face Obstacles?



Where's the Welcome Mat? 96

Some immigrants are welcomed to their new homes, but others are told to leave.

Introducing Migration

Diffusion was defined in Chapter 1 as a process by which a characteristic spreads from one area to another, and relocation diffusion was the spread of a characteristic through the bodily movement of people from one place to another. The changing *scale* generated by modern transportation systems, especially motor vehicles and airplanes, makes relocation diffusion more feasible than in the past, when people had to rely on walking, animal power, or slow ships.

The subject of this chapter is a specific type of relocation diffusion called **migration**, which is a permanent move to a new location. Geographers document where people migrate to and from across the *space* of Earth.

Migration is a form of **mobility**, which is a more general term covering all types of movements from one place to another. People display mobility in a variety of ways, such as by journeying every weekday from their homes

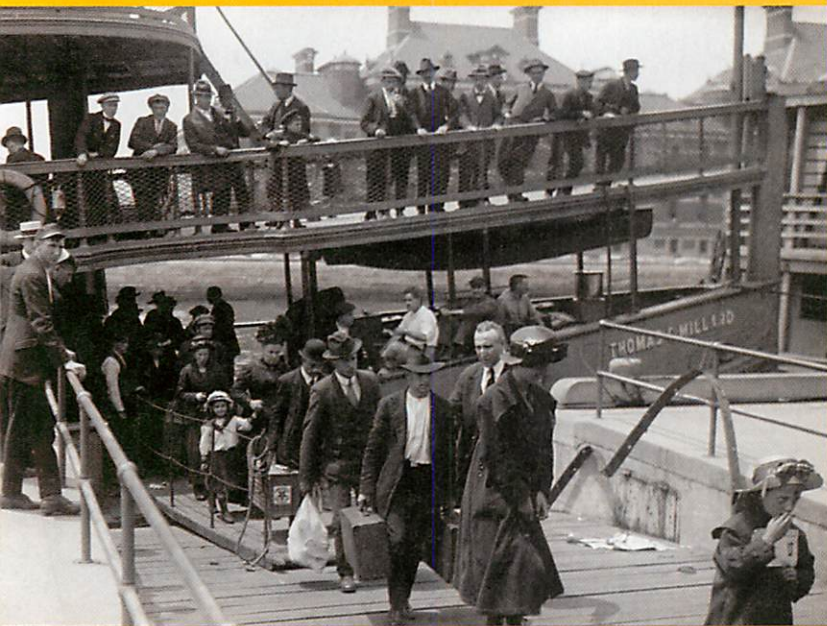
to places of work or education and once a week to shops, places of worship, or recreation areas. These types of short-term, repetitive, or cyclical movements that recur on a regular basis, such as daily, monthly, or annually, are called **circulation**. College students display another form of mobility—seasonal mobility—by moving to a dormitory each fall and returning home the following spring.

The flow of migration always involves two-way *connections*. Given two locations, A and B, some people migrate from A to B, while at the same time others migrate from B to A. *Emigration* is migration *from* a location; *immigration* is migration *to* a location (Figure 3-1).

The difference between the number of immigrants and the number of emigrants is the **net migration**. If the number of immigrants exceeds the number of emigrants, the net migration is positive, and the region has net in-migration. If the number of emigrants exceeds the number of immigrants, the net migration is negative, and the region has net out-migration.

When people migrate from one *region* to another, they take with them to their new home their language, religion, ethnicity, and other cultural traits, as well as their methods of farming and other economic practices. At the same time, they become connected with the cultural and economic patterns of the new *place* of residence.

- **KEY ISSUE 1** describes the distribution of *where* immigration occurs around the world. The United States plays a key role in the distribution of global migration, because for more than two centuries, it has been the most important destination for migrants.
- **KEY ISSUE 2** looks at the *local diversity* of immigration within countries. Some places and regions within countries attract migrants, whereas migrants move away from other places and regions.
- **KEY ISSUE 3** summarizes the principal reasons *why* people migrate. Geographers are especially interested in why people migrate, because it profoundly influences the places and regions that are the sources and the destinations of migrants.
- **KEY ISSUE 4** discusses issues that arise as a result of migration. In the *globalization* of world communications and transportation, it is easier than in the past to travel from one place to another, yet the ability of people to migrate is more limited than in the past by legal obstacles and the hostility of people at the place of destination.



▲ **FIGURE 3-1** EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION These people are emigrating from Italy in 1907 and immigrating to the United States. They are disembarking from the ship at Ellis Island, in New York Harbor, the principal point of entry into the United States during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.